

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested. Claims 3-7, 12, 14, 15 and 17-19 have been amended; and claims 1, 2, 8-11 and 16 have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 3-7, 12-15 and 17-19 remain in this application and are again presented for the Examiner's consideration in view of the following comments.

Initially, applicant has made several amendments to the specification in order to correct typographical and/or grammatical errors found therein. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested. No new matter has been added.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 3-7, 12-15 and 17-19. Applicant submits that the amendments to these claims set forth above are merely intended to clarify these claims and to place them in a better condition for U.S. practice. None of these amendments relates to the patentability of these claims, and none of the amendments changes the scope of the claims. Accordingly, applicant submits that these amendments are clearly enterable and do not affect the allowability of these claims over the prior art.

In the Official Action, claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 11 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,317,784 to Mackintosh et al. Furthermore, claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mackintosh in view of GB 2,347,332A to Billyard et al. As noted above, applicant has cancelled claims 1, 2, 8-11 and 16. Applicant submits that the cancellation of these claims now renders the foregoing rejections moot.

Applicant has briefly reviewed the additional prior art references cited in the Official Action but not relied upon by the Examiner, and believes them to be no more pertinent to the present invention than as discussed in the Official Action.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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